

Introduced by Senator Poochigian

February 16, 2006

An act to amend Section 60641 of the Education Code, relating to pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1306, as introduced, Poochigian. Pupils: Standardized Testing and Reporting Program: reports to parents.

(1) Existing law establishes the Standardized Testing and Reporting Program, to be known as the STAR Program. The STAR Program requires each school district, charter school, and county office of education to administer a specified achievement test designated by the State Board of Education to each of its pupils in grades 3 and 7, and a different achievement test designated by the state board to each of its pupils in grades 2 to 11, inclusive.

Existing law requires school districts to comply with, among other things, a requirement that the individual results of each pupil test administered under the STAR Program be reported, in writing, to the pupil's parent or guardian. Existing law requires the written report to include a clear explanation of the purpose of the test, the pupil's score, and its intended use by the school district.

This bill, additionally, would require the grade level of the pupil's performance on the test to be reported to the pupil's parent or guardian. The bill would establish a state-mandated local program by imposing this additional requirement on school districts.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 60641 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:
3 60641. (a) The department shall ensure that school districts
4 comply with each of the following requirements:
5 (1) The achievement test designated pursuant to Section 60642
6 and the standards-based achievement test provided for in Section
7 60642.5 are scheduled to be administered to all pupils during the
8 period prescribed in subdivision (b) of Section 60640.
9 (2) The individual results of each pupil test administered
10 pursuant to Section 60640 shall be reported, in writing, to the
11 pupil's parent or guardian. The written report shall include a
12 clear explanation of the purpose of the test, the pupil's score, ~~and~~
13 ~~its intended use by the school district~~ *the grade level of the*
14 *pupil's performance, and the intended use of this information by*
15 *the school district.* This subdivision does not require teachers or
16 other school district personnel to prepare individualized
17 explanations of each pupil's test score.
18 (3) (A) The individual results of each pupil test administered
19 pursuant to Section 60640 shall also be reported to the pupil's
20 school and teachers. The school district shall include the pupil's
21 test results in his or her pupil records. However, except as
22 provided in this section, individual pupil test results may only be
23 released with the permission of either the pupil's parent or
24 guardian if the pupil is a minor, or the pupil if the pupil has
25 reached the age of majority or is emancipated.
26 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a pupil or his or her
27 parent or guardian may authorize the release of individual pupil
28 results to a postsecondary educational institution for the purpose
29 of credit, placement, or admission.
30 (4) The districtwide, school-level, and grade-level results of
31 the STAR Program in each of the grades designated pursuant to

1 Section 60640, but not the score or relative position of any
2 individually ascertainable pupil, shall be reported to the
3 governing board of the school district at a regularly scheduled
4 meeting, and the countywide, school-level, and grade-level
5 results for classes and programs under the jurisdiction of the
6 county office of education shall be similarly reported to the
7 county board of education at a regularly scheduled meeting.

8 (b) The publisher designated pursuant to Section 60642 and
9 the publisher of the standards-based achievement tests provided
10 for in Section 60642.5 shall make the individual pupil, grade,
11 school, school district, and state results available to the
12 department pursuant to paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) of
13 Section 60643 by August 8 of each year in which the
14 achievement test is administered for those schools for which the
15 last day of test administration, including makeup days, is on or
16 before June 25. The department shall make the grade, school,
17 school district, and state results available on the Internet by
18 August 15 of each year in which the achievement test is
19 administered for those schools for which the last day of test
20 administration, including makeup days, is on or before June 25.

21 (c) The department shall take all reasonable steps to ensure
22 that the results of the test for all pupils who take the test by June
23 25 are made available on the Internet by August 15, as set forth
24 in subdivision (b).

25 (d) The department shall ensure that a California Standards
26 Test that is augmented for the purpose of determining credit,
27 placement, or admission of a pupil in a postsecondary
28 educational institution inform a pupil in grade 11 that he or she
29 may request that the results from that assessment be released to a
30 postsecondary educational institution.

31 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
32 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
33 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
34 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
35 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.